

Chapter Eleven: Schedule of CWCS Review and Revision

The guidance the agencies have received regarding review and revision of the CWCS require that this take place within ten years.

The MDFW plans to review the CWCS on a ten-year timetable. In addition to this review, we will publish and make available to the public and our partners a Ten-Year Progress Report. The release of this document will activate the formal public review process of the Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy before the Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife Board. During this process the public, the Federal, State, local agencies, and the Tribes, who manage significant land and water resources or who administer programs which can significantly affect the SGNC, will have multiple opportunities to make recommendations to add or delete species to the list of SGNC and to provide comment on other significant amendments to the CWCS that the Fish and Wildlife Board may consider. We believe that this time interval will provide us with an opportunity to have enough years of experience with the CWCS in place so that, when the formal review and revision process begins, we will have a good baseline of information available to us and our partners to make the process meaningful. The formal process of review by the Fish and Wildlife Board is a transparent and open process which ensures that anyone who wishes to provide comment has an opportunity and that those comments are addressed.

However, we will not wait for the ten-year formal review to make fine-scale adjustments to the CWCS. Results-based management decisions will be made on an ongoing basis throughout the period, based on professional judgment, new information gained as a result of our activities or provided by our partners, and recognition of changing threats to the species in greatest need of conservation.